

TWO APPARENTLY NEW GEOMETRID MOTHS FROM SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA.

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In February 1944, Canadian Entomologist, LXXVI, p. 33, the author, in revising the genus *Chlorosea* Pack., expressed the opinion that the differences of southern specimens of *banksaria* Sperry from the northern species, were too slight to warrant separation. Since the publication of this paper the author has collected additional material from the upper Santa Ana River in San Bernardino Co., Calif., and now considers that the differences which seemed slight with only two southern specimens for comparison, are very constant when seen in longer series. The author considers, since the southern specimens are readily separated both by maculation and by genitalia from their northern brethren, that the southern *Chlorosea* probably deserves specific rating and makes bold to describe,

Chlorosea gracearia, n. sp.

Both sexes: Palpi, bright rose; front ochreous, flecked occasionally with rose, a rosy area between and behind the antennae, which are creamy white; collar rose. Legs; femur and upper tibia clothed with green hair, tibia and upper tarsus bright rose on all legs. Thorax green (Ridgway's Civette Green in fresh specimens), abdomen pale green dorsally, dark green ventrally, the creamy spots ringed with rose decorating the first four abdominal segments dorsally. Wings, both primaries and secondaries, are immaculate green in four specimens of the type series, in four specimens the t.p. line on both wings is so fine it is barely indicated, position nearly as in *banksaria*. Beneath, immaculate green with the silvery ground color showing through, chiefly along the inner marginal areas of both wings. Lines, when present, and fringes silvery, shading into green. Expanse 26 to 30 mm. Male Genitalia: The differences in the genitalia of all *Chlorosea* species are slight, this species is closest to *banksaria* Sperry, differing in the following particulars: in *gracearia* the costal tooth is blunter than that in *banksaria*, the gnathos comes to a sharp point but lacks the sharp tip of *banksaria*, the aedeagus in *gracearia* is narrow, flaring slightly at the head and coming to a point on the right side of the organ, in *banksaria* the head is broader and the tip sharper. The teeth which decorate the two points on the edge of the 8th segment which are multiple in *banksaria*, in

gracearia, consist of two long sharp teeth, one dorsally and one ventrally at each point. This is the surest character.

Holotype, female, Barton Flats, San Bernardino Co., Calif., Sept. 4, 1945 (G. H. & J. L. Sperry), in the collection of the author.

Allotype, male, Mt. Wilson, Calif., Aug. 9, 1913 (H. H. Newcomb).

Paratypes, 4 females, Barton Flats, Sept. 1, 3 and 10, 1945 (G. H. & J. L. Sperry); 1 female same locality, Aug. 4, 1945 (A. L. Melander); 1 female, Lake Arrowhead, San Bernardino Co., Calif., May 30, 1937 (H. Little).

It gives me great pleasure, to name this beautiful *Chlorosea*, shall I say, in honor of my wife, Grace Herreshoff Sperry? No. She has been honored by better entomologists than I, let me say rather in her honor and in happy remembrance of the great cloud masses that climb above the peaks, of soft breezes singing through the pines, of the scent of fresh pulled balsam, the path of moonlight on the water, the ethereal beauty of the hermit thrush at twilight and a coyote singing softly far away through a starlit, fragrant night and of all the good and simple things that make our memories of this, the land we love.

This species comes between *banksaria* and *roseitacta* Prout on the list and is separated by its smaller size, averaging 28 mm. to 36 mm. for *banksaria*, the entire or near absence of lines on the wings, the presence of dorsal spots on four abdominal segments to three in *banksaria*. In my specimens of *gracearia* the tibiae are bright rose, as is the collar also, in *banksaria* the tibiae are ochreous, tinged with light pink, and the collar is green. *Gracearia* is distinguished from *roseitacta* by the absence of the rosy streak on the inner margin of the secondaries and from other members of the genus by the presence of abdominal spots.

From the southern desert I have what appears to be a new Cleorid.

Stenoporpia crickmeri, n. sp.

Both sexes. Palpi, head and thorax pale ochreous buff, abdomen same, lightly flecked with deep brownish drab (Ridgway color). Wings, pale ochreous with a creamy cast, sprinkled and blotched, lightly or very heavily, with brownish drab, no lines definitely present but the blotches are arranged to indicate t.a., median and t.p. lines on both wings.

Primaries, basal area flecked with brownish drab, an irregular, small, triangular costal spot one-third out marks the beginning of the t.a. line, which, when traceable in irregular

mottling, leaves the costa at an outwardly oblique angle to the cell, thence subparallel to the outer margin to inner margin. The median line, if such it can be called, starts two-thirds out on the costa, indicated by a small spot, sometimes absent, curves subparallel to the outer margin outside the distinct oval discal spot, turning inward along the lower edge of the cell, thence roughly parallel to t.a. line to inner margin at less than one-half out. There is a tendency to heavier mottling in the area between the t.a. and median lines in some specimens approaching the form of a loose fascia. The t.p. is best marked of all the lines, starting four-fifths out on the costa and running roughly subparallel to the outer margin, this series of large, irregular, toothed blotches makes an irregular band across the wing, outwardly edged with lighter scales. There is an irregular terminal dark hair-line with intervenular dots. Fringes ochreous tinged with drab.

The so-called lines are arranged on the secondaries as on the primaries. The discal dot is small, oval, solid and distinct. Beneath pale shining ochreous, discal spots and costal half of t.p. line showing faintly through. Expanse, male 26 to 29 mm.; female 25 to 29 mm.

Holotype, male, Borrego, Calif., March 1946 (Noël Crickmer), in collection Sperry.

Allotype, female, same data.

Paratypes, 3 males, 8 females, same data, Mar. & Apr. 1946 (Crickmer); 1 male, Borrego, Calif., Apr. 11, 1941, 1 female, Apr. 3, 1941 (G. H. & J. L. Sperry).

It gives me great pleasure to name this fine species in honor of my friend Noël Crickmer in recognition of my great indebtedness to him for many thousands of desert moths and in memory of certain beatings I have received from him across the chess board.

This species belongs in the *dionaria-pulchella* section of the genus and is closest to *pulchella* Grossb. but is smaller (27 mm. compared with 32 mm. or more) and lacks the rosy flesh color of Grossbeck's species, the t.p. line in *crickmeri* is nearer the outer margin and more diffuse than in *pulchella*, the discal spots are not ringed as in *pulchella* and beneath show only faintly whereas in *pulchella* the dots are large and distinct, and finally in *crickmeri* the male antennae are pectinate to the end whereas in all other members of the group the last mm. or more of the antennae are simple. This feature made the author doubtful as to the generic reference but the male genitalia are Stenoporpien.

**A NEW RHABDOPTERUS FROM TEXAS
(COLEOPTERA, CHRYSOMELIDAE).**

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Except for the few samples mentioned herein very little new information on *Rhabdopterus* has come to notice since my discussion in 1943 (Bul. Brooklyn Ent. Soc. 38: 111-120) of the confusion and uncertainties found in the poorly preserved and otherwise inadequate samples from our area. Two samples from San Antonio, Tex., received through routine official channels in 1943 and 1946, followed by better samples from Menard, Tex., include males so well preserved in alcohol that when dissected the obvious peculiarities of their aedeagi prevent their identification as *R. praetextus* (Say), which they otherwise resemble. These differences are indicated in the accompanying diagrams and offer almost the only characters observed which seem of value for identification.

Concepts of specific or subspecific status of superficially similar but distinguishable forms are changing. The relative constancy in the form of the aedeagus of *praetextus* throughout its great area of habitat seems to exclude the San Antonio samples, although *praetextus* appears to be abundant from the mouth of the Rio Grande to Quebec. The following appears to be the seventh species of *Rhabdopterus* distinguishable in the material now available, but our area is still very inadequately sampled.

***Rhabdopterus bottimeri*, n. sp.**

Very similar to *R. praetextus* (Say). Differs in the form and proportions of the aedeagus, which is longer and apparently narrower with the produced apical process longer and concave with a slight median carina near tip as indicated in figure 1, D. In the aspect shown in this figure the width is distinctly less than half (only 3/7) of the length from base of dorsal sclerotization to base of the apical process, whereas in *praetextus* the width is distinctly more than half (about 3/5) of its length. The legs and antennae pale, the latter rarely showing infuscation of joints 7, 10, and 11, as in related species, the hind tibia relatively longer, more curved and narrower in middle third, more abruptly broadened apically, measuring, length 1.7 mm.; width at apex 0.3, at base 0.15, at middle 0.18, whereas in *praetextus* these measurements are 1.45, 0.22, 0.12, 0.18 respectively. Length 5-6 mm., width across humeri 2.5-3 mm.